

Early Dietetic Careers Case Study

My name is Georgia Homer, I'm a Diabetes Dietitian at South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust.

I graduated from University of Nottingham in summer 2021 after four years as a learner dietitian and started working at Warwick hospital (South Warwickshire University NHS Foundation Trust) as a band 5 dietitian in late August 2021.

I spent 12 months covering the wards and general clinics. In August 2022 I started a band 5/6 development role within the same trust specialising in diabetes. I have been working through the competency framework developed by BDA's Diabetes Specialist Group and I am currently awaiting the final sign off on these.

During my time as an acute dietitian, I completed an AHP preceptorship programme ran by my trust. This involved a mixture of online learning sessions on topics such as managing stress, one to one sessions with my preceptor and developing a portfolio of evidence. For

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one of the online sessions, my fellow dietetic preceptees and I delivered a session to the other preceptees on nutrition and hydration to support the health of the NHS workforce as well as an overview of how we can support our patients. Running this session highlighted to me the importance of AHP networking and learning from one another. As part of our referral criteria, we included our details to ensure that other newly graduated AHPs were aware of how dietitians fit into MDT working.

Being involved in the preceptorship programme was important to me as it supported the transition from learner dietitian to fully qualified. The programme helped me practice organisation and building a portfolio of evidence, skills which I have used again when signing off my diabetes competencies. The preceptorship programme made me feel supported by my trust by highlighting the importance of staff wellbeing and increasing my awareness of services available locally for both myself and patients.



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Dietetic
Workforce Development
Programme